



THE VALLEY PATRIOT

"Congress shall make no law..."

2004

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Doughty: Pay Teachers More, Fund Treatment for Homeless, Addicted



Wrentham native, Chris Doughty, is a candidate for the republican primary for MA Governor. He appeared on the Paying Attention Podcast with Tom Duggan last month to talk about his views on running the state. To watch the video, visit the Valley Patriot Facebook page or listen on iHeartRadio, iTunes, or GooglePlay.

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VALLEY PATRIOT OF THE MONTH

Haverhill's Frederick "Buddy" Hansen, Jr.

John Cuddy

VALLEY PATRIOT HERO REPORTER

A Veteran, Father, Husband,
Brother, and Hero

On April 16th of this year, a reunion was held on the shore of Rock Pond in Georgetown, Massachusetts.

Family and friends gathered to remember a Haverhill Veteran, Frederick "Buddy" Hansen, a husband, brother, and dad, who drowned in this pond

while saving the lives of two young boys, on April 16, 1972 - exactly fifty years ago. There were many laughs and tears as memories were shared, and the love could be felt as this great man was remembered.

Fishing on Rock Pond, in a small 10' aluminum boat, were Scott Hansen, age 12, and his friends John Shirling, age 9, and Paul Noel, age 11, along with Scott's dad 38-year-old Buddy Hansen, Jr. of Haverhill, Massachusetts. Buddy

was a Haverhill Highway Department employee and a US Navy Veteran. At around noontime, a much larger motorboat passed 50' in front of them, leaving a large wake.

According to several witnesses at the site of the boating accident, the wake of the larger motor-powered boat, swamped the smaller craft. These bystanders, many who assisted with the rescue of the boys, later told first responders, that while Scott was able to swim ashore, the two younger boys were struggling, and didn't know how to swim. Buddy lifted the boys from the water and pushed them forward again and again, pushing them towards shore.

There was a father and son on the shore trying to help the boys to safety, but it was homeowner Carol Rochefort who saw the boat starting to swamp from her window and came to aid in the rescue. She went into the water with life jackets and helped the boys to shore. She tried to save Buddy, but it was too late. Georgetown Police Sgt. John Dowdy attempted to locate and assist Buddy in the frigid water. Carol joined the family on April 16th to remember and meet the extended family and friends of Buddy. After fifty years she got to hug one of the boys she helped rescue, Paul Noel. She had previously welcomed Scott into her home to talk about that day and see the man he had become. Many of the witnesses insisted, incorrectly, that there had been four youths in the boat with



Buddy. The three boys cleared this error up quickly, shifting the focus on the search for Buddy. His body was found by Haverhill Fire Department Divers in the cold lake about an hour later.

I met with Buddy's son, Scott, at Al's Diner in Methuen, Massachusetts for breakfast early one morning this month, along with Buddy's brother, and Scott's uncle, Bob, also a US Navy veteran. Bob served on the USS Charles Roan DD 853 as a US Navy Postal Clerk. Both men vividly remember their part in the day's event. Their testimony to Buddy's heroism on that day moved me, and with Memorial Day this month, I thought it fitting to write this story, and give the

HERO: PAGE 16

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Fear Mongers and Media Lies About Roe v. Wade

The Roe v. Wade decision was a lawsuit filed in the 70s and eventually decided by the United States Supreme Court. The court decided back then that - even though abortion is mentioned nowhere in the constitution - they were going to create that right by ruling abortion is indeed in the Constitution.

This was a very controversial ruling back then and remains controversial today.

Last month, it was revealed that the Supreme Court is about to overturn that decision. Almost immediately, the liars in politics and the media began making false proclamations to scare and misinform the public.

Here's what the decision actually means:

Contrary to what you see on CNN every day, the reversal of Roe v. Wade does not make abortion illegal. It does not "destroy democracy." In fact, the upcoming Supreme Court decision

restores democracy as it returns the issue back to the voters of each state to decide what, if any, restrictions there should be on abortions in those states.

As Justice Scalia once said, if you want abortion to be legal you don't need a constitutional right, Congress, or your state legislature can codify it into law and make abortion legal.

THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE

Every poll since the original Roe decision shows that the vast majority of Americans believe in some restrictions on abortion. For example, most Americans oppose late term abortions, abortions for sex selection, or birth control.

Here in Massachusetts, the legislature passed what they called the ROE ACT, which would allow children to get abortions without their parent's consent or even their knowledge.

In other states like Texas and Alabama, laws were passed making abortion illegal after the first trimester (three months).

In Virginia, they passed a law outlawing abortion when a fetal heartbeat can be detected in the baby.

This was the system our founding fathers set up in the Constitution.

SO WHY ALL THE LIES?

Finally, we would be remiss if we did not openly mock those who talk out of both sides of their mouths to get the results they want, Constitution be damned. They demanded everyone get a vaccine during the COVID Pandemic, but now cry about bodily autonomy saying, "our bodies, our choice" and "keep the government's hands off our bodies." This issue has also exposed the absurd lies about "gender fluidity." Think about what they've told us; men can compete in women's sports, men can use women's bathrooms, and men can get pregnant.

Suddenly, now that Roe is being overturned, they have all magically discovered "women's rights" again.

What a joke. None of these people really care about women's rights; they only care about the money they are making on the abortion industry.

We would also like to point out the hypocrisy of pro-abortion advocates who claimed for years that the original Roe decision was constitutional - even though abortion is not in the Constitution - because the Constitution "is a living breathing document that changes with times."

These same people are now ironically complaining that the original Roe v. Wade decision is "precedent" and "settled law" and should never be overturned. We say, the times just changed in a way they didn't like, and they have no right to complain.

At the end of the day, those decrying the end of democracy with the Roe decision are nothing more than fearmongers. Our Democracy is going to be just fine. ♦

YE GAY O'LE VALLEY: LBGTQ+ Makes Donation to Media Center

Dani Langevin
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

"If you can see it, you can be it," - Elizabeth Marvel. Simple words but, so very powerful. Recently the members of the Methuen High School Gender Sexuality Alliance (GSA) donated \$300 to the media center for LGBTQ+ materials, as well as, purchasing a large banner hanging in the high school entryway celebrating diversity. The materials purchased are needed to give the members of this community affirmation, acceptance and guidance. We are blessed to live in a geographical area where we are not met with the damaging resistance we are seeing throughout our country today.

I envy the members in the GSA. They are living in a time when they can express their individuality and sexuality in ways I would have been, quite literally, killed for. Although they don't see it, the freedoms and protections they have today were not even on the radar when I was their age. No hope. No representation. No role models or heroes. I was alone along with millions of other LGBTQ+ Americans hiding in a closet created by straight people to make them more comfortable. Of course, the

young see what has not been achieved rather than what has and why shouldn't they? Why celebrate acquiring rights and freedoms that were naturally ours at birth?

"Having a flag that represents me and many others gives me a place to be who I am and not have to worry about hiding myself from others," mentioned Emma, a student at MHS.

I hid myself for thirty years because there was nothing that represented who I am or how I felt. I was made to feel invisible, unloved, and inadequate. Is that what we want for our children today? That's what Florida is doing. I pray it won't happen here.

Logan, another student at MHS says, "...the donation and banner, it acts as a reminder both in and out of the line of sight that the LGBTQ+ community as a whole is, in the simplest of terms, a community. People may not like it, some of the populace of Methuen sure as hell don't, but it's the truth and the banner and donation serve as a reminder of that, a reminder that we will do everything in our power to be seen and heard not as below others, but instead as equals."

They are right of course. We are a community just as there are Black



Principal Richard Barden, School Superintendent Brandi Kwong, Teacher Dani Langevin (co-advisor to GSA), Logan Healey, Mayor Perry, Chris Lannan, AJ MacLeod, and Brendan Cripps (co-advisor GSA)

communities and Asian, Hispanic, Muslim, Jewish, etc. We are an American community. We were born and raised in America just like you. We are endowed by our inalienable rights, just like you and yet we must still fight for them. We must fight for representation in our families, films, politics, philosophies, religions, schools and institutions. Schools are trying to erase us by banning books and lessons about sexual orientation. What about the kids who have same sex parents? Shouldn't they be represented? Or the girl or boy who knows what they feel but are constantly

being told that it is wrong and hateful either by explicit or implicit messages? Don't they need protecting? If not, then the message is loud and clear, "They are not worth protecting!" I'm honored to be teaching in a school system that values all of its students.

Less than 100 years ago it was illegal to depict a "queer" person in film. Any theatre that did could risk being closed for a year. A year! What message did that send? Then along comes the Lavender Scare when the government fired thousands of employees they thought to be "queer"

GAY: PAGE 23

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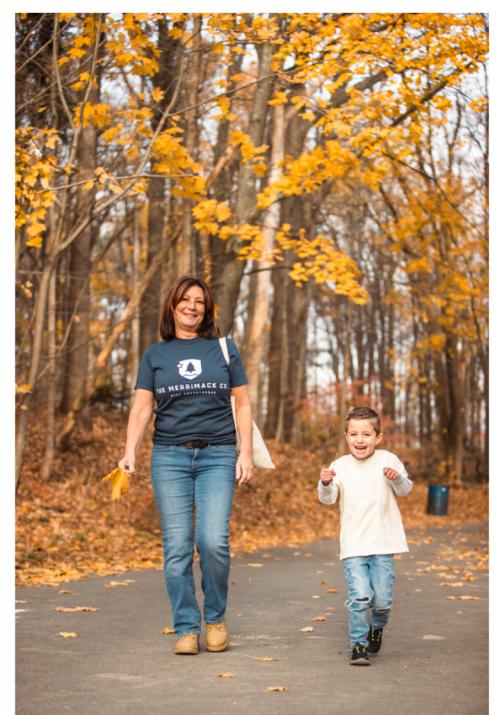
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KEEPING PROMISES:

\$2M for Gr. Lawrence Family Health Center

LAWRENCE, MA —On Thursday, April 21st, Lawrence Mayor Brian A. DePeña joined U.S. Representative Lori Trahan (MA-3), the Lawrence State Delegation, members of the Lawrence City Council, and GLFHC leaders to announce \$2 million in federal funding secured by Trahan to expand primary health services offered to patients at Greater Lawrence Family Health Center (GLFHC) located at 700 Essex Street in Lawrence.

“Before the pandemic, the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center provided critical care that kept our community healthy and safe — but during the pandemic, it became a literal lifesaver,” said Congresswoman Trahan. “It’s hard to overstate just how essential the organization has been for families in Lawrence, Methuen, and Haverhill. That’s why I’m so proud to have secured \$2 million in federal funds for Greater Lawrence Family Health Center, which will support expanded health services and strengthened care at its Essex Street facility. I’ll always be a strong advocate for Greater Lawrence Family Health Center and health centers like it that provide critical care to our most vulnerable neighbors.”

GLFHC provides high-quality health services to traditionally low-income and non-English speaking individuals and families in Lawrence, Methuen, and Haverhill. The facilities have been key in the fight against COVID-19, first in testing for the virus and treating COVID-positive patients, and now in vaccination efforts. The health center has received nearly \$11 million in COVID-19 relief funding, including \$8.5 million awarded through the American Rescue Plan.

“I want to thank Congresswoman Trahan for her great commitment and leadership. If I can describe Lori in two words, it would be: support and resources because she continues to lead and fight for our communities from Washington,” said Mayor Brian DePeña. “Our population is growing quickly and so are our needs. Bringing resources to our community to expand our health care services is not only smart but critical in underprivileged communities. Expanding resources means expanding hope for our people. Let’s keep it up!”

GLFHC currently operates 7 Health Center sites in Lawrence, Methuen, and Haverhill and has identified the need to expand services in the City of Lawrence. The Essex Street facility serves more than 8,000 patients, offering primary care services, opioid treatment, outreach and prevention, behavioral health services, family pharmacy services, and more. The patient population and demand in the area is growing, and the size of the facility must follow suit.

“I am incredibly grateful for the leadership of Congresswoman Lori Trahan in securing \$2 million in federal funding for the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center,” said State Representative Frank Moran. “This critical funding will allow the health center to continue its mission of improving and maintaining the health of all individuals and families throughout the Merrimack Valley and I would like to thank Congresswoman Trahan for her ongoing commitment to the residents of



Lawrence and beyond.”

Recognizing this need, Trahan secured \$2 million in funding during negotiations over the recently passed government funding package to create 4,000 square feet of new clinic space at its Essex Street facility, perform necessary renovations to the existing space, and update medical equipment to expand patient and pharmacy access at one of its busiest clinical locations. In addition to the benefits to patients, the renovations and upgrades will create 20 new jobs in the first year after construction is completed.

“Greater Lawrence Family Health Center is so grateful to Congresswoman Lori Trahan for her selfless commitment to our Health Center staff and patients,” said Greater Lawrence Family Health Center CEO and President Guy Fish. “This extraordinary funding will be transformational and allow us to expand one of our busiest sites in the city of Lawrence – expanding patient access to an additional 4000 medically underserved patients who are in need of quality healthcare.”

“Securing this funding for GLFHC means that thousands of Lawrence families will receive vital care which would otherwise be impossible to get,” said State Representative Marcos Devers. “When my family immigrated to Lawrence in 1987, we used GLFHC’s services, so I am proud to say that this project will further establish Lawrence as a regional leader in affordable care.”

“When faced with a challenge, the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center doubles down and finds a solution,” said State Representative Christina Minicucci. “During Covid, they took over a vacant retail space and quickly transformed it into a vaccine hub for the city and the whole Merrimack Valley. With this investment of \$2M, they will be able to transform it once again, this time into new medical space allowing them the ability to provide expanded health and wellness services to our community.”

The health center was also one of the early participants in President Biden’s Community Health Center Vaccination Program and has administered over 30,000 vaccines since December 2020. Additionally, as the first teaching health center established in U.S. history, GLFHC continues to be instrumental in training medical professionals who will go on to serve vulnerable communities.

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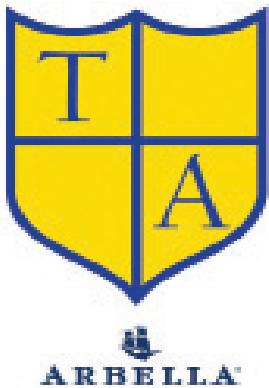
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REP RACE GETS SMALLER
The race for the newly carved state representative district in Lawrence and Methuen just got smaller with Frank Serillo (chairman of the Gr. Lawrence Tech School Committee) dropping out of the race. This leaves Lawrence City Councilor Estela Reyes and Methuen City Councilor James McCarty as the only two candidates in the race. Since both are running as Democrats, this race will be decided in the primary on Tuesday, September 6th.

LAWRENCE SCHOOL COMMITTEE UPSET WITH MAYOR FOR REFUSING TO MEET

Elected Members of the defunct Lawrence School Committee are angry with Mayor Brian DePeña for refusing to meet with them. While the school committee is still elected by the people of Lawrence, they act only as a pretend school committee as they have absolutely no power over the budget, school policy, hiring, firing, ratifying contracts, or curriculum. So, other than to appease the elected school committee with photo-ops, why should the mayor meet with them for hours over issues they have no power to control? I say Mayor DePeña should meet with them once, find out what they have to say, carry any valid concerns to the state, and focus on meeting with people who have a say in how kids in Lawrence are not being educated.

HAMILTON STILL RUNNING UNOPPOSED

Former Methuen City Councilor Ryan Hamilton seems to be the only person interested in representing Methuen in the State House to fill Linda Dean Campbell's newly changed district. Campbell is not running for reelection this year leaving the seat wide open. Rumor had it that City Councilor Jessica Finocchiaro was thinking of getting into the race, but if she was going to jump in, she most likely would have done so by now.

What a shame that not one other person is running for this seat. Nobody should ever run unopposed for any office. I hope someone gets into that race, so the voters have a choice.

SAL DEFARNO v. BARRY FINEGOLD

State Senator Barry Finegold has a Republican opponent after his district

TOM DUGGAN'S NOTEBOOK

Devon Rodriguez flew in from Arizona to Lawrence to present a check for \$2,500 to The Movement Family (TMF) for their work with the homeless in Lawrence. Devon also dropped off a \$2,500 check for the Boys Club in Lawrence on behalf of his organization KIN Aesthetics.



was carved up and expanded. Sal DeFranco of Haverhill and owner of Battle Grounds Coffee is challenging Finegold in the November election.

NORTH ANDOVER CONSIDERS TAKING POLICE OUT OF CIVIL SERVICE

The Civil Service Administration provides employment protections for police officers and other public employees. It was established to stop the selling of jobs, politicians giving public jobs to family members, and created a standard by which some public employees are hired, fired, and disciplined. Later this month, the town of North Andover will vote at Annual Town Meeting to take North Andover Police Officers out of civil service.

Yes, that will make it easier to fire bad cops, but it will also make it easier for town employees to get jobs for their families. I will be attending town meeting this year and I will be voting NO, even though my friend the chief is in favor of this measure.

DEAN TRAN TO OPPOSE CONGRESSMAN LORI TRAHAN

Dean Tran has officially announced his bid to unseat incumbent Lori Trahan for U.S. Representative in the Third Congressional District. Tran, a two-term Republican State Senator from Fitchburg, has garnered the needed signatures to be on the ballot in November.

“People are angry. His campaign will continue to tap into this sense

of frustration and bewilderment as momentum builds towards November.”

MEMORIAL DAY IN ANDOVER

The Town of Andover will be observing Memorial Day through numerous events scheduled through the month of May and concluding with a Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony on Monday May 30, 2022.

Schedule of Events/Volunteers are welcome to join Memorial Day Cemetery Flag replacing

Sunday May 15, 2022 11AM

Spring Grove Cemetery

Sunday May 22, 2022 10:00 AM

Sacred Heart/United Lebanese

Cemeteries

Sunday May 22, 2022 10:00 AM

St. Augustine’s Cemetery

Memorial Day Ceremonies

Monday May 30th, 2022

Ceremony at West Parish Cemetery

7AM

Ceremony at Saint Augustine

Cemetery 7:30 AM

Ceremony at Spring Grove Cemetery

8:00 AM

Memorial Day Parade 10:00 AM

Memorial Day Ceremony 10:45 AM

IPSWICH, MA WALK

SATURDAY, MAY 21ST– The Two Town Walking Club invites walkers to complete a 6km or 10km (3.7 or 6.2 mile) walk route in Ipswich, MA. This is a map-guided memorial walk for Karen Campbell, a former Treasurer and Two Town Walking Club member.

The start point is the Ipswich

WINSTON SAYS!



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Masonic Temple, 70 Topsfield Rd, Ipswich, MA 01938. Register for these walks in person at the Ipswich Masonic Temple on the day of this event. These walks start promptly between 9:30AM - 10:30AM and finish promptly at 1:30PM There is a \$3 fee for all participants. The 6km and 10km routes are on paved roads and footpaths in downtown and residential neighborhoods with hills. Both trails are NOT accessible to wheelchairs and are medium difficulty for strollers. Pet leash laws apply.

Walkers will pass by points of interest on both walk routes, some of which are First Period Homes (1620-1725), Choate Bridge (oldest stone arch bridge in use in US, since 1764), downtown restaurants, the Ipswich River, a mural of Ipswich history, Greek, Orthodox, Russian, and Catholic churches and a site where the first female European in the New World, poet Anne Bradstreet, lived.

The Two Town Walking Club sponsors numerous walks during the year. There is also an achievement awards program through the American Volkssport Association (AVA). For

NEXT PAGE

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NEWBURYPORT MAUDLSAY PARK HIKE - MAY 19TH

Join Merrimack River Watershed Council for a free guided hike at Maudslay State Park at 11AM on Thursday, May 19th. Maudslay has one of the longest publicly-accessible waterfronts along the Merrimack.

The hike will explore the park's fascinating human and natural history and their connections to the river, including a Native American settlement site, the remains of a 19th century castle, the famed Laurels and the 19th century literary figures who were drawn to it, the remnants of the grand Moseley estate, and interesting natural phenomenon such as spring herring migration and resurgence of sturgeon. The tour will also touch on environmental and climate change challenges facing the Merrimack, and what is being done to address them.

The tour route is roughly 3 miles long, and the terrain varies from flat to hilly. Some areas require a vigorous uphill hike. This is a free event, but donations to MRWC are welcome. Please also note that Maudslay State Park charges a \$5 fee for parking.

Pre-registration is required, and the sign-up form can be found at merrimack.org/events

DEEP BLUE PERFORMS A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF MUSIC BY BURT BACHARACH AND HAL DAVID at the Stockbridge Theater, Derry, NH - Friday, May 27th

Legendary composer Burt Bacharach is celebrating his 94th birthday this month! Bacharach is an American composer, songwriter, record producer, and pianist who composed hundreds of pop songs from the late 1950s through the 1980s along with his lyricist, Hal David.

A six-time Grammy winner, Bacharach's songs have been recorded by more than 1,000 different artists. He has written 48 Top 10 hits with nine of them being number one! He is

considered one of the most important composers of 20th-century.

His music is characterized by unusual chord progressions, influenced by his background in jazz harmony, and uncommon selections of instruments for small orchestras. Most of Bacharach's and David's hits were written specifically for and performed by Dionne Warwick, but earlier associations saw the composing duo work with Marty Robbins, Perry Como, Gene McDaniels, and Jerry Butler. Later Bacharach went on to write hits for Gene Pitney, Dusty Springfield, Jackie DeShannon, Herb Alpert, B.J. Thomas, the Carpenters, and many others.

Songs that he wrote which have topped the charts include: "This Guy's In Love With You," "Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head," "(They Long To Be) Close To You" and "What the World Needs Now is Love".

The Deep Blue C Studio Orchestra will be performing all the above-mentioned songs and more as a tribute to the music of Burt Bacharach at the Stockbridge Theater, Pinkerton Academy on Friday, May 27th! The orchestra is comprised of a string section, horn section, guitars, keyboards, drums and four singers!

This outstanding orchestra is known for filling theaters around New England with their theme-based programs.

The orchestra is led by Dave "Doc" Vose who is an international touring artist for the Yamaha Corporation of America, was a long-time professor at Boston's Berklee College of Music and was recently inducted into the World Drum Corps Hall of Fame.

The Deep Blue C Studio Orchestra finds its joy in playing great music and especially for entertaining its enthusiastic audiences!

The Stockbridge Theater is at the Pinkerton Academy in Derry, New Hampshire. FOR INFORMATION: David Vose, 207.361.4221, profvose@gmail.com ♦

EYE ON DRACUT

Dracut Voters Elect Positive Newcomer Jennifer Kopcinski

By Brian Genest

VALLEY PATRIOT DRACUT COLUMNIST

From the time Dracut native Jennifer Richardson Kopcinski was a young girl, she was taught the value of hard work and the importance of giving back to our community. She got the message. Thanks to her strong work ethic and a positive message about our town, the political newcomer and first-time candidate won the open seat on the Board of Selectmen in the annual town election this year.

Kopcinski has deep roots in Dracut. Her family ran Richardson's Dairy on Bridge Street. Her great grandfather, Guy Richardson, served as the town's fire chief. Her grandfather, Warren Richardson, Sr., was the clerk of fire engineers. Her father, Warren Richardson, was elected to serve on the Planning Board for a decade. Now, Kopcinski will continue her family's long record of public service to Dracut as a Selectman.

In the five-way race, Kopcinski talked about keeping Dracut affordable, focusing on land preservation to balance growth and supporting public safety. She focused on the positive. She said she wants to be sure Dracut continues to be an outstanding place to live and raise a family. She pointed out that good things are happening right now, including the overall management of the town, finances, and infrastructure projects. She said we need to keep the momentum and make sure Dracut stays on the right track. She promised to be positive, professional, and pro-Dracut.

Unlike other candidates, Kopcinski worked very hard. She knocked on thousands of doors, made hundreds of phone calls and talked to as many voters as possible about her background, experience and positions on the issues. She did everything she could to spread the word, build trust and earn the endorsement of voters—and she did.

Kopcinski is a smart woman. After graduating from Dracut High School, she earned a bachelor's degree in business administration at Nichols College, an MBA at Assumption College, and a juris doctorate from



the Massachusetts School of Law. Her professional career as an attorney and paralegal includes extensive project management, budgeting, management, and oversight experience. For more than a decade, she's worked at a Boston law firm. Specializing in the areas of workers' compensation, employment law and general liability, the firm's clients include insurers, businesses, and employers, ranging from Fortune 500 companies to small, family-run businesses.

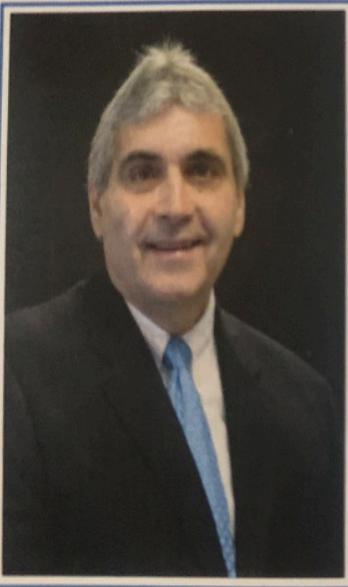
Kopcinski's experience, positive outlook and demonstrated commitment to serve our town will be good for Dracut. She's absolutely right: things are going well in town right now. It's not by accident; it's because the right people are in charge of town government and Kopcinski understands the importance of keeping things headed in the right direction.

What isn't good for Dracut is the negative, personal attacks that permeated the race from some of the other candidates and their supporters. Unfortunately, every year at election time, some of the most negative voices in town become even more vocal than usual. On the airwaves, social media and anywhere else they can, they try to paint a negative picture of Dracut. They want you to believe that Dracut isn't doing well right now. They want you to believe the town isn't headed in the right direction. They want you to believe that our best days are behind us. Simply put, it's a pile of cow manure. They don't want you to believe your own two eyes.

Meanwhile, they attack elected

DRACUT: PAGE 15





Mike Sullivan
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

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GOP Candidate for MA Governor Chris Doughty: Pay Teachers More, More Local Aid for Homeless and Addicted

Chris Doughty arrived in Massachusetts in 1987 when he went to Harvard Business School.

He lives in Wrentham, where he raised six children, all of whom went to public schools. He is now an “empty nester” with four grandchildren.

Doughty bought a small manufacturing company in the 90s producing metal and auto parts which is thriving today.

Doughty says that his business and manufacturing experience give him a good perspective on helping businesses in Massachusetts.

“Our state has focused so much on biotech and finance in Boston, but not nearly enough in these communities (in the Merrimack Valley) and that’s one of the things that I want to bring to Massachusetts as governor, good jobs, good benefits and long term employment for the citizens of this state and not just in Boston”.

How do you beat Democrat Maura Healey in the final election, Massachusetts is so liberal, so dominated by Democrats, it’s a one party state?

“Typically, in our state we do vote for Republican governors. For the last thirty years we’ve had Weld, Celucci, Romney and Baker, so I think our state really prefers to have one fiscally conservative person in The State House.”

“I think it’s been important for our state. You see how much taxing and spending would occur without a conservative governor. So, I think the public now, more than ever, would like a Republican governor in the State House to be a block, or a counterbalance to the spending and the taxing that the Democrat legislature is putting through.”

“Remember this, for 30 years we’ve had one major tax increase just one, it was the sales tax. And that happened with a Democrat governor and Democrat legislators.”

“I think people want a reasonable governor that can work on problems and solve issues with the legislature.”



Wrentham native, Chris Doughty, is a candidate for the republican primary for Massachusetts Governor. He appeared on the *Paying Attention Podcast* with Tom Duggan last month to talk about his views on running the state. To watch the video, visit the Valley Patriot Facebook page or listen on iHeartRadio, iTunes, or GooglePlay.

EDUCATION

Do you have a plan to stop the political indoctrination and make our schools focus more on the basic subjects that they are not teaching now?

“I have three ideas that can all be implemented relatively quickly. One is a tip-line or call-line that is multilingual. So, if you speak Spanish, Portuguese, or English, you would call this number if your children are not being taught age-appropriate material in the class.”

“Then we can tabulate which districts are getting the most complaints from parents, then we could call in the administrators from these towns and districts and say, ‘we are getting a lot of complaints... so, we can implement a root cause and corrective action plan.’

“As we do in the business world if they don’t fix the problem, then we will continue meeting until they do.”

“Right now, the state controls the curriculum, if we need to, the state can come in and be more specific on the curriculum so that we can layout the things that need to be taught.”

“The last thing is this... there are two problems in education right now; one is, teachers aren’t earning enough money, to stay in their job. So, day one, I’m going to go in and make sure our teachers are being compensated adequately.”

“Right now, our teachers and our police officers need affordable housing. Inflation is at 7%, their wages have only gone up 2%, and a lot are leaving the industry.”

“The next one is this, I’m going to say to all of the teachers and parents, ‘I want your kids and your teachers in the classroom.’ The teachers are spending too much time out of the classroom doing other things. Education occurs inside the classroom, and we want them to stay

there. So those are a few things we can do.”

“One last thing as a father of six, I have seen my children have done much better when they have had extracurricular, after school activities like; band, soccer, sewing, debate, anything that our children enjoy doing. I would really promote after school extracurricular activities. I would encourage it, and I would help pay for it. I think the social networks, the friendships, [that] the kids develop, the skills pursuing their own destiny are so important for children.”

“We have 900,000 students right now, 25% of the students are of Latin origin. These are my colleagues’ children. They speak Spanish; as governor I would really focus on that. I likewise speak Spanish, so I feel a real affinity toward those that are Spanish and Portuguese speakers. I

DOUGHTY: PAGE 11

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BENEATH THE SURFACE with Paul Murano

The Roe Leak and Its Response

Paul Murano
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

There seems to be two basic reasons for the hysteria now being witnessed in Leftist women over the potential overturn of Roe vs. Wade: fear and anger. Fear reigns in those who can't imagine not being part of a fornication culture with abortion as a way out of being "stuck" with a baby. Anger dominates those whose hatred for God and humanity demands the blood of the innocent. Hell has succeeded with both.

What seems to be missing from the radar is that abortion was illegal before Roe, which was not too long ago. From the time that modern science discovered how human life begins with Mendelian genetics in the mid-1800s, no one with a conscience thought abortion was okay. In a world without legal abortion, people were generally much happier. There were considerably less suicides, divorces, violent crimes, personal heartbreaks, and the need for prescription medications. Only relatively recently, with the sexual revolution, did all this begin to change.

Let's look at a few key Supreme Court rulings in recent history to see how far we've strayed from the natural order of God's plan, in just a half century:

1965 - Contraception was legalized in Griswold vs. Connecticut



1973 - Prenatal murder (abortion) was legalized in Roe vs. Wade

2003 - Sodomy was decriminalized in Lawrence vs. Texas

2015 - "Same-sex marriage" was legalized in Obergefell vs. Hodges

With a snowball effect, each deviation from human nature demanded the next. Rather than evincing amazement that all these crimes against nature were also civil crimes not too long ago, perhaps more people should ponder why society was content without them and why more families thrived. Let's go beneath the surface.

Almost 90% of abortions today are from unmarried women. Two questions follow from this data: Would there have been an abortion culture had we not strayed from God's immutable law that sex is only for marriage? What persuaded an entire society almost overnight to divorce sex from procreation and from

marriage? The answers are no and contraception. This is why the Griswold decision had to be the first domino to fall. No-fault divorce soon followed and the family breakdown was underway.

As I watch the NBA playoffs tonight I can't help but mourn the loss of the one-third of players that should have been on the court, but were killed before birth. I think of this often when I see any group of people under 50 today. This is what Roe v. Wade has done. We live in alternate reality. It is nothing less than devastating, and very perplexing why half the country can't see this.

Although it has destroyed over 70 million human beings in America that we'll never get to meet in this life, abortion is still a symptom of the bigger problem. Unless the sexual revolution is reversed, and people realize they have no moral right to fornication, they will not realize they have no right to

abortion. And they won't realize this until contraception is rejected – as it was for nearly two millennia before 'the pill', illicit sex blinds, and leads to murder – of marriages, families, babies, and countless minds and souls. Unless you attack the sexual revolution at its root, the culture of death will remain and the fear and anger from those caught up in its grip will continue.

The country is now post-Christian. Its faith-premises that undergird its laws are agnostic at best. The rationalization of moral depravity based on privacy and false freedom is rotting civilization to its core.

If the Supreme Court makes good on its leaked memo and does overturn Roe v. Wade, abortion will go back to the state level, and child-killing will continue in many states. Sex without consequences is demanded in our era.

This is why post-Christian pagans are worse off than pre-Christian pagans: The latter anticipated the light that would lead to human happiness and fulfillment; the former has rejected it.

Paul Murano is producer and host of Beneath the Surface video podcasts, has taught college philosophy & theology, and is a producer/writer for St. Michael's Media. Check out his website at PaulMurano.com. E-mail Paul at [PJDM@aol.com](mailto:PaulMurano@AOL.com)

Methuen High's Brianna Trachtenberg Receives \$3,775 Scholarship At Annual BASH!



The Valley Patriot BASH Scholarship and Award night supporters donated \$3,775 to Brianna Trachtenberg of Methuen. Flanked by her family, Methuen School Committee member Jana Zanni Pesce and Methuen City Councilor Eunice Zeigler, and former councilor Ryan Hamilton, Trachtenberg was presented a check by Valley Patriot publisher, Tom Duggan.

The scholarship was started this year by Dave Garofalo of Two Guys Smoke Shop and Studio 21 Podcast Cafe in Salem NH, for a student going into communications, journalism, or broadcasting.

This year the scholarship winner

Brianna Trachtenberg is a graduating senior at Methuen High School. She is in the National Honor Society, the History Honors Society, and the Science National Honors Society.

She is also a member of the Methuen High School marching and concert band.

Throughout high school she has been on the honor roll and is president of her temple's youth group.

Next year, she plans to attend Quinnipiac University and major in Journalism.

The Valley Patriot's First Studio 21 Podcast Cafe Scholarship winner Brianna Trachtenberg was erroneously left out of last month's BASH edition.



Dave Garofalo of Two Guys Smoke Shop and "The Studio 21 Podcast Cafe" donated \$2,100 to start our first scholarship for a student in the Merrimack Valley going into broadcasting, communications, or media. Also donating to this scholarship are: Dave Garofalo - Studio 21 Podcast Café \$2,100 * Joel Faretra \$50 * Lillian Michaud \$100 * Jana Zanni Pesce \$100 * Steve Zanni \$100 * Councilor Nick DiZoglio \$100 * Jessica Finocchiaro \$50 * Ryan Dizoglio \$100 * Dj Beauregard \$100 * Francisco Paulino \$250 * Ryan Hamilton \$100 * Lillian Michaud \$100. Ben and Nhi Wallens \$25 * Anonymous \$500

Massachusetts Candidates on Legalizing Abortion

GEOFF DIEHL

Geoff Diehl, Republican candidate for Governor of Massachusetts, issued a written press release staking out his position as a pro-life candidate, agreeing with the Supreme Court saying that the issue should be left to each individual state to decide.

"As the Framers of our government recognized, state government is where the appropriate balance on important issues can be most appropriately determined."

"We both believe in, and reaffirm, the need to protect human life wherever and whenever possible. We also reaffirm our concurrence with Governor Baker's veto of the so-called "ROE ACT" last year (a state law which expands access to late-term abortions), recognizing that extreme bill as a radical move too far by state legislators here in our state."

CHRIS DOUGHTY

Republican candidate for Governor Chris Doughty seemed to shy away from the issue, telling The Valley Patriot; "The right to abortion is enshrined in the Massachusetts Constitution. I'm running to focus on making our state more affordable for our citizens and our job creators. As Governor, I will not seek changes to our state's abortion laws."

AG MAURA HEALEY

Democrat candidate for Governor Maura Healey is not only in favor of abortion, but supports late term (partial birth) abortion, taxpayer funded abortions, and opposes any restrictions on abortion procedures. "We're already seeing the impact of abortion bans in some states. Patients are forced to

leave behind children and jobs to travel thousands of miles to access care – if they can afford to. Overturning Roe poses a grave threat to public health, our economy, and our civil rights." She also supports the Roe Act which would make it legal for children to get abortions without their parent or legal guardians' approval or even their knowledge.

LOCAL CANDIDATES

ESTELA REYES, DEMOCRAT CANDIDATE FOR STATE REP

Lawrence City Councilor and candidate for State Representative said that if she is elected, she will vote to preserve "a woman's right to choose" but also said she believes in "common sense reform and restrictions" on the procedure.

"While this is a very difficult, personal issue, as I believe that legislation must be passed to protect the right to choose, and I will vote to facilitate women's rights to an abortion as a right in Massachusetts."

"But with all rights there must be common sense reforms or restrictions at the state level."

"As State Representative, I will ensure to push for the amendment of the ROE ACT, to remove provisions allowing minors to access abortion without the consent of a parent, legal guardian or judge."

I also will work with lawmakers to make abortion more accessible, by expanding access for all women. Individual rights and freedoms, including the right to access safe and legal abortion, are at the heart of who we are as a country.

STATE SENATOR DIANA DIZOGLIO

Now a candidate for State Auditor, DiZoglio has gone all in with the abortion industry saying publicly that a woman terminating her baby is a "right."

"Abortion is health care — essential, necessary, a right. We will not be quiet"

STATE REP TRAM NGUYEN, ANDOVER

Democrat Tram Nguyen is a full supporter of abortions and does not oppose any restrictions on the procedure. She stood last month with a pro-abortion group called the Red Cloaks and promoted them on Twitter.

"We have the right to control our own bodies. That's the message of the @bostonredcloaks, and that's my firm belief. In MA we have codified ROE into law, but we can't be complacent; we need to keep fighting here and across the country to protect our reproductive rights."

Nguyen supported the ROE ACT in the legislature which would make it legal for children to get abortions without parental knowledge or consent.

STATE REP CHRISTINA MINICUCCI

NORTH ANDOVER

Democrat Christina is a staunch supporter of abortions and favors not only partial birth abortion, but also supported the ROE ACT making it legal for children to get abortions without their parent's knowledge or consent. When the media reported that the court was about to overturn Roe v Wade, Minicucci posted the following message on social media.

"While last night's leaked draft decision doesn't come as a surprise, it still comes as a shock. While access to abortion is codified here in MA, there is more work to be done. The time is now to stand in support of those across the country whose rights are being threatened."

EUNICE ZEIGLER

CANDIDATE FOR STATE SENATE Methuen City Councilor Eunice Zeigler is in her final term on the city council, as she is restricted to run again due to term limits. Zeigler is a democrat running for the state senate seat being vacated by Diana DiZoglio. She faces Lawrence City Councilor Pavel Payano and Doris Rodriguez in the September 6th democrat primary. There are no republicans in this race. Zeigler told the Valley Patriot;

"As a prospective Senator, I will advocate to protect the reproductive and health rights and choices for women that are currently guaranteed by the Constitution. If the Supreme Court chooses to roll back fifty years of privacy rights I will advocate to ensure those rights are protected legislatively in Massachusetts."

We live in a democracy and I strongly believe in protecting our human rights. Government does not and should not have the right to regulate our bodies.

PAVEL PAYANO

CANDIDATE FOR STATE SENATE Lawrence City Councilor At-Large Pavel Payano is a candidate for the state senate seat being vacated by Diana DiZoglio. He is running against Eunice Zeigler and Doris Ortiz. Payano

ABORTION: PAGE 15

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From the Desk of Representative Marcos Devers

Supporting The Work and Family Mobility Act

April in the State House is centered around the Commonwealth's budget for the 2023 Fiscal Year.

Representatives have all spent the last several months in their communities figuring out what is most needed, and how they can help.

Rep. Devers is no different, and his April was spent meeting with dozens of local organizations and nonprofits, including several events which did not involve the budget.

One highlight of his month was the presentation of a citation on behalf of the Lawrence Delegation of the Massachusetts House of Representatives to Jhanny Jimenez Feliz, Lawrence resident and the first student from Methuen's Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School to be accepted to MIT. Rep. Devers also enjoyed a tour of Youth Development Organization's office and education space, where they educate and empower dozens of Lawrence children.

Even in this busy time of year normal office operations continued, and Rep. Devers' office experienced an increase in constituent assistance cases which was successfully handled. For those who have questions or need assistance, Representative Devers can be contacted

at marcos.devers@mahouse.gov.

The legislative side of Rep. Devers' office was focused on the state budget process, as it moved through the House Ways and Means Committee to the full House of Representatives. Representative Devers sponsored nine amendments total, the majority of which would create local earmarks for Lawrence organizations. This included local earmarks for environmental affairs, youth development, elder affairs, local tourism, food security, and more.

Because the state budget is passed on an annual basis, Representative Devers focused on how to best help Lawrence and ensure its organizations and community members are supported for the upcoming year.

Additionally, Representative Devers co-sponsored 78 amendments on a variety of topics, including amendments that work to support school mental health services, improve water quality, end deep poverty in the Commonwealth, support a wide range of Lawrence nonprofits, and improve regional transportation.

After writing, co-sponsoring, and showing support for these many state budget amendments, Representative Devers spent time debating the budget

with his colleagues, in an effort to create the best budget for the whole of Massachusetts. Over the course of the House debate, House members discussed all submitted amendments and at the end of a busy budget week, passed the Fiscal Year 2023 House Budget. Now, the process moves to the Senate, where a Senate version of the budget will be debated and voted on, before both budgets move to a conference committee for negotiations.

Outside of the budget process, Representative Devers attended the quarterly Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus meeting with Governor Baker, where they discussed topics of importance to the communities represented by Black and Latino legislators.

Additionally, Representative Devers participated in a hearing of the Joint Committee on Transportation, for which he is the Vice Chair. That hearing was called to hear testimony on Governor Baker's proposed Transportation Bond Bill (H.4561).

The bill totals \$9.7 billion and would make significant investments in the state's transportation and environmental infrastructure. ♦



DOUGHTY: FROM 8

think we should go right in on day one and let's make sure we're giving the best education to Latino students."

"We can borrow from Texas and New Mexico and other states that have a large Latin community to make sure they have the best schools possible."

HOMELESSNESS AND OPIOID ADDICTION

They estimate 90% of the fentanyl coming into our communities are coming across the Southern border. There are a lot of governors coming together to work on the Southern border problem. I would join them. The more governors to come together and say we've got to fix the southern border. That's one thing."

"The second thing is that ... the state has done as much as they can, but we have to turn it over to the local communities. Right now, we are basically

defunding our local communities and using all the money in the state house. I would say, listen, over the course of time I want to change that. I want to move more money to the local communities, because they are the ones that are closest on the ground to address this, not down in Boston."

Doughty said that he would increase funding for local police and first responders. A few days after our interview, news broke about the upcoming Supreme Court decision overturning Roe v. Wade. Doughty's sent the Valley Patriot a statement on the issue. See top of page 10.

To view the Paying Attention Podcast with Tom Duggan, visit the Valley Patriot Facebook page or listen to this podcast or previous shows on iHeartRadio, iTunes, PodBean, or GooglePlay. ♦

IN YOUR CORNER with SENATOR DIZOGLIO

Providing Care for K9s Injured in the Line of Duty

Hello Valley Patriot Readers,

Four years ago, in April 2018, when residents across Massachusetts mourned the tragic loss of Yarmouth Police Sgt. Sean Gannon, who was killed in the line of duty while serving a warrant, Gannon's K9, Nero, was also shot and suffered life-threatening injuries.

Under state law at the time, first responders could not treat Nero at the scene. Instead, despite the presence of medical personnel at the scene, he had to be driven to a local animal hospital in the back of a police cruiser.

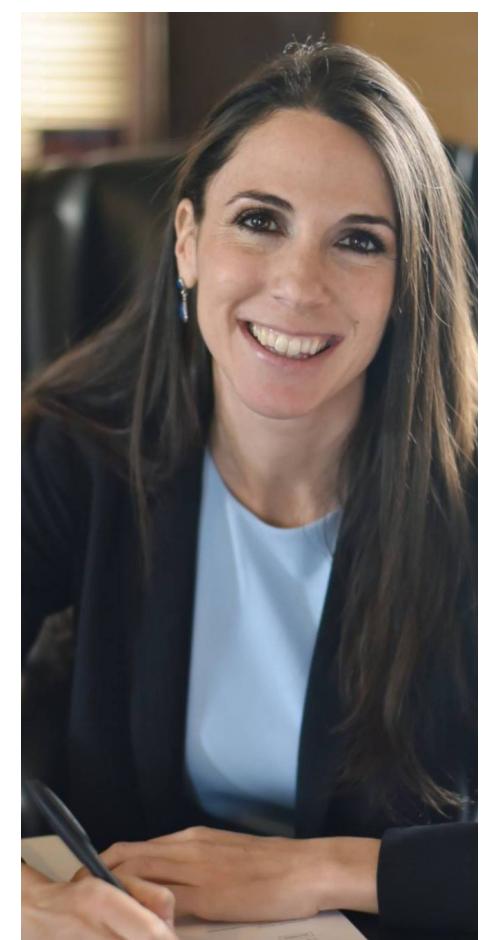
This was simply unacceptable. Nero's critical injuries should have been allowed to be treated right on site.

That is why I am so grateful the Massachusetts Senate recently passed legislation I co-sponsored, Nero's Law, that will permit emergency medical personnel to offer emergency medical treatment and transport of K9 partners, including first aid, CPR and lifesaving interventions.

With the bill's recent signing into law by the Governor, Massachusetts is following in the footsteps of several other states, including California, Illinois, New York, Ohio, and Wisconsin, that have similar laws on the books.

Nero and all K9 officers have a significant, positive impact on the communities and departments they serve and deserve the quality of care on-site when it is possible. The ability to provide immediate medical treatment and transport will help save lives.

Thank you to Representative Steven Xiarhos and Senator Mark Montigny for



sponsoring this important legislation.

If you have any questions on this or any other issue, please feel free to contact me anytime via email at Dizoglio@masenate.gov or phone at 978-984-7747.

Yours in service,
Diana ♦

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On the night before he was deployed to the Middle East, Marcel Jiminez (MJ) showed up at the Claddagh in Lawrence to give The Movement Family (TMF) a \$2,500 donation for their efforts to feed and clothe the homeless in Lawrence. Seen above with TMF founder Michael Gorman of Methuen, MJ presented the check during a TMF watch party for Methuen's Georges Niang who is in the playoffs for the Philadelphia 76's.

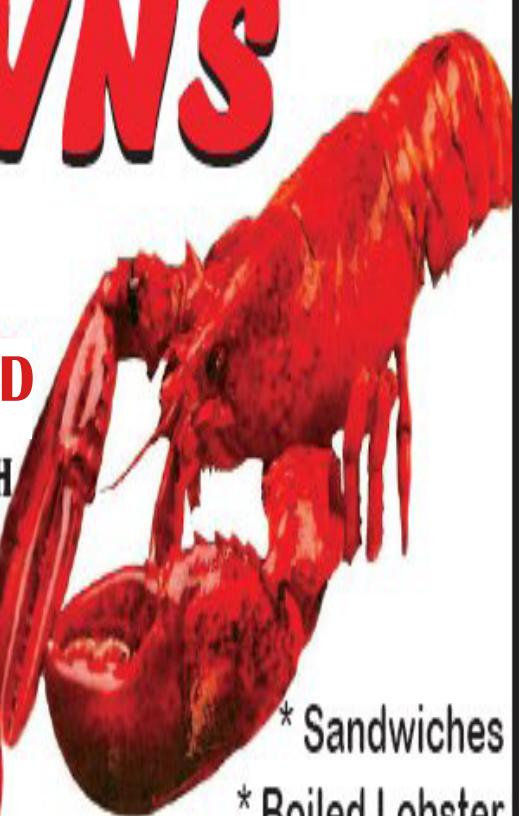
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Lawrence Mayor DePeña and Metro Credit Union Partner to increase Homeownership

This 40-year mortgage initiative will make the process of becoming a homeowner a reality and easier for more low-income residents, including first-time homebuyers who are having difficulty buying a home. On April 05th, Lawrence Mayor Brian A. DePeña and Metro Credit Union's Chief Executive Officer, Robert Cashman agreed to join forces and initiatives through the City's First Time Home Buyer Program (FTHB) and the Metro's 40-year fixed rate mortgage program.

This collective effort will ensure that low-to-moderate income residents have more opportunity to become homeowners. Metro recently added the 40-year mortgage to its product lineup, which includes options for jumbo loans and bi-weekly payments.

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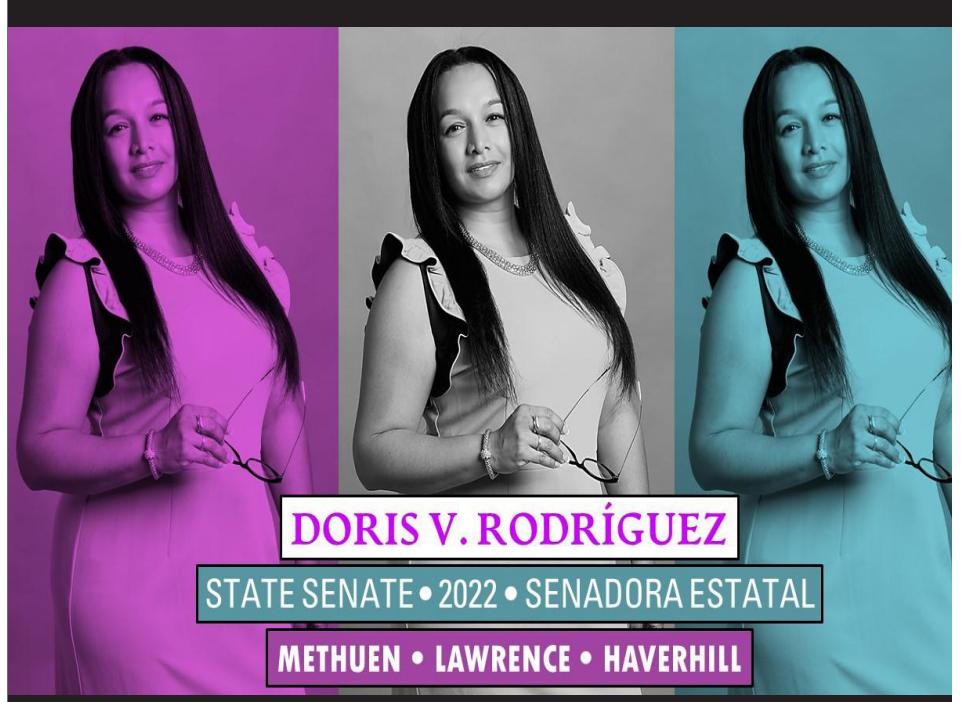
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"Budget week in the Massachusetts House of Representatives can be long, as we discuss and vote on over a thousand amendments" said Methuen State Rep. Linda Dean Campbell. "But a rewarding and fun pause in voting each year is when we have the opportunity to say hello to service dogs from NEADS! We adopted an amendment to this year's House budget allocating \$85,000 for the NEADS service dog program for Veterans. As a Veteran and a dog lover who has had Labrador Retrievers in the family forever, I can say with confidence that these companions and all service dogs are so very effective at helping Veterans and many others in living with disabilities and coping with trauma."



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valleypatriot.com

Geoff Diehl a Strong Voice for Constitutional Rights, Dog Welfare, and Veteran Employment

Kane and Candidate for Governor Geoff Diehl have attended many of the same Veteran events over the past few years, so Kane was very excited to run into Geoff Diehl at the Valley Patriot Scholarship and Award Banquet. Kane was surprised Geoff Diehl could see him at the corner table, where his humans said he would be safely away from the guest's Chicken Parmesan, but Geoff found him, since he is known for seeking out dogs in a crowd. (Check out #DogsforDiehl). Besides giving the best neck scratches, Kane knows that Geoff Diehl is a strong supporter and advocate for legislation that supports the humane treatment of dogs and recent legislation to support emergency care of working dogs hurt in the line of duty.

One example of this legislation includes the Animal Cruelty Case, Puppy Doe in 2014. Ultimately the successful resolution of this case, also named the Paws Protection Act, increased the penalty for abuse of animals and the length of jail time. Kane takes a particular interest in this type of work because he came from an animal neglect situation and his sister Ruby was saved by the local authorities from neglect and starvation. In fact, Geoff Diehl had a canine family member named Chloe for 16 years. She was a Lab Shepherd mix rescued from the New York City MSPCA. Geoff truly understands how important dogs are and just recently felt ready to add Lucy, a new pup to his family, who often hits the campaign trail with him.

Geoff Diehl stated, "Massachusetts Legislation is proactive in helping

animals, the legislation often recognizes them as the true companions that they are." Diehl is a strong supporter in legislation to keep our police officers and k9 officers safe in the line of duty. He sees the importance of having adequate resources, support, and training to keep up with a forever changing environment. The tragic death of Officer Gagnon showcased the dangerous nature of the job and need for K-9 Officers like Nero to be treated at the scene when injured in the line of duty. Nero's Law was treated with a level of urgency in the protection of law enforcement and K9 safety.

Kane was also excited to discuss Geoff Diehl's ideas on veterans' services. Many of Kane's friends are veterans and are known for both their work ethic and training they acquired in the military. As Governor, Geoff Diehl will work to waive licensing requirements to establish a career immediately upon integration back into civilian life. Geoff discussed how many returning veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan had to spend endless hours being certified again by the state licensing board for careers they were already trained for and actively working in during military service. Examples are people in both the construction and medical field. A path that recognizes the talents and skills veterans bring to the table for immediate use is important to both the veteran and employer. Geoff Diehl feels the current licensing board rules block the returning veterans from immediately using their talents.

Lastly, we discussed the recent firing of state employees for not adhering to the vaccination mandate. Geoff Diehl clearly



stated that during his first day in office he would hire these state employees back to their respected careers. Diehl said, "we are losing a talented pool of people." He feels strongly that decisions about medical care are individual choices that each person has a right to make for themselves. Diehl discussed how many of the first responders, nurses, firefighters, and police officers could have natural immunity from the virus, which was not taken into consideration. However, the importance of allowing citizens to make

personal decisions in regard to their health is of upmost important.

Kane would like you to reach out to Geoff Diehl with questions you may have. Don't be shy, he is easy to talk to. He was even willing to share his chicken parmesan, but don't tell anyone.

Diehl for Massachusetts, PO Box 60362, Worcester, MA 01606, info@geoffdiehl.com

Woof,
Kane Peaslee ♦

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ABORTION: FROM 10

says that he is for “abortion rights” but balked at discussing whether he would support any restrictions on abortion.

Payano told the Valley Patriot; “Until we know if there will be new federal rules and what they will be, discussions on the topic are preliminary and it will be impossible to determine what steps the Commonwealth will have to take. Regardless like all of our statewide leaders I support a woman’s right to choose.”

DORIS RODRIGUEZ -

LAWRENCE

CANDIDATE FOR STATE REP

Doris V. Rodriguez, candidate for the newly redistricted State Senate seat for the First Essex District (Methuen, Lawrence, Haverhill), says she is Pro-Choice and will continue to support the current Massachusetts law that was enacted in 2020, which protects access to abortion in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

“In regards to the potential overturn of Roe v. Wade, such decision would put women’s health, safety, and well-being at risk. First, no one should be able to tell a woman, or anyone, what to do with their body. Second, the abortion law goes beyond just abortion. It also involves many other issues,

such as access to the same procedures and medications used to safely care for miscarriages. These procedures personally saved my life. And lastly, as a mother of three beautiful girls, I remain Pro-Choice, since I could never imagine having to carry a forced pregnancy for 9 months, which would be physically and mentally dangerous.

RYAN HAMILTON CANDIDATE FOR STATE REP (METHUEN, LAWRENCE, HAVERHILL)

“I’m disappointed to hear about the impending Roe v Wade decision by the Supreme Court. I’m not running for office to control a woman or her body. Abortion is not a procedure someone seeks out and typically talks about casually. For those women who have shared their stories with me, their decisions were not made with carelessness. Service in government needs to include empathy. I shouldn’t have to experience something to feel empathy directly.”

“I’m grateful that Massachusetts worked these past few years to pass the Roe Act. And as a State Representative, I will defend that act, women’s access to care, and the right this country owes them to make decisions for their bodies.”

By Ken Willette, Jr.

Recently, I had the humble experience of being banned by Twitter for 12 hours because of an idea I offered regarding the Ukraine invasion. I was shocked and immediately appealed, where I thought the appeal process would reverse the unjustified ban. I was mistaken and the 12-hour time-out proceeded forward.

I said: “Kill more Russians and leave knitted baby socks as a reminder that their barbarism will be repaid tenfold. I am hoping the US volunteers are mobilizing the Ukraine resistance as well.” Mind you, the Russian troops are engaging in war crimes, killing pregnant women in maternity hospitals, targeting nursing homes and bombing identifiable areas where children are sheltered. A pregnant woman was carted away on a stretcher from a bombed-out hospital and was photographed. Worldwide condemnation followed and the woman and her unborn child subsequently died. Hence, the baby sock message to armed invaders.

My message didn’t apply to all Russians, only armed combatants, and I didn’t advocate for genocide against Mother Russia. The Russians are absolutely the evil aggressors and Twitter condoned their actions by penalizing my free speech. Twitter is not innocent and impartial in overseeing controversial tweets and actions, as reflected in the following examples.

In fact, the President of Russia, called out as a war criminal by Biden, still has an official Twitter site. Yet Trump is still banned from Twitter, where he never directed a campaign of violence against unarmed civilians and represents a popular voice in the greatest republic.

Madonna envisioned blowing up the Trump White House in a speech before thousands. (No Twitter Ban). Kathy Griffin lifted a bloodied head of a look-a-like Trump. (Free to follow on Twitter). The Foreign Ministry of Iran, which advocates terrorism, wants to build a nuclear weapon, seeks the destruction of Israel and denies the

Twitter Madness

Holocaust, welcomes your attention.

The Anti-Defamation League has called out Minister Louis Farrakhan for decades of anti-Jewish declarations, such as saying the Jewish faith is a ‘deceptive lie’ designed to control the economy of the United States. The Minister has said that the Jews controlled the slave trade too. Plus, he hates Whites and GLBTQ community members. He awaits your replies to his tweets. Notice a massive illogical trend here, as a sea of violence, revisionist history and venom is given a global electronic platform.

This can’t be by mere coincidence or accident. And it goes to my main point about the madness of banning or censoring one group versus another in the marketplace of ideas. The Constitution is not selective in protecting freedom of speech, no matter how despised the messenger is. It is very protective, except when someone cries fire in a crowded theater when there is no fire. Child porn is not speech, but a heinous crime that should be severely punished. A person falsely staging and then reporting a hate crime to the world should be arrested, convicted and imprisoned. But even convicted felon Jussie Smollett still has an official Twitter account verified by the blue checkmark!

But why are high-tech giants arbitrarily judging what should be mostly unfettered speech in our country? This is so contradictory to what our nation has become—an evolving multicultural experiment in constitutional republican liberties and laws. Let me, as a free and informed citizen, determine my identity, my knowledge and my ideological beliefs.

Why is the Left so hell-bent about banning conservatives, but they leave the backdoor wide open to anti-women advocates, war criminals and promoters of hateful lies? There is an agenda here, and all sides of the political spectrum should be very afraid. Because censorship is often replaced by sanitized state news, propaganda, half-truths and one-sided fairy tales. America is better than this!

GENEST: FROM PAGE 7

officials, their spouses, and friends. They attack private citizens. They attack business owners. They don’t care about seeing our town be successful, they care about politics, power, and patronage.

Today, Dracut is in the best shape it’s been in for quite some time. Our success is thanks to the leadership of Town Manager Ann Vandal, clear direction from Selectmen and strong support from the townspeople.

Thankfully, to keep Dracut moving forward, voters casting ballots for the open seat on the Board of Selectmen rejected the politics and the politicians of the past.

—Brian Genest is the producer and host of Eye on Dracut, a monthly news magazine show about town happenings that airs on DATV Channel 8 and online at DracutTV.org. Eye on Dracut is winner of the 2022 Hometown Media Award for News. ◊

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The Patriot Fife & Drum Duo

David Vose and Sue Walko are seasoned musicians having performed music for over 40 years between them. David Vose is a recently retired professor from Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts.

In 1999, he was inducted into the Massachusetts Educators Hall of Fame. In 2019 he was inducted into the World Drum Corps Hall of Fame! Sue Walko is an experienced fifer having grown up in the hot bed area of fifes and drums in the state of Connecticut and playing in various fife and drum corps.

Vose and Walko teamed up to perform fife and drum music from the 17th and 18th century and also play music for special holidays. They talk about their instruments that they are playing and history and do it in an energetic and entertaining manner.

The Patriot Fife & Drum Duo are very involved with the Christmas Prelude in Kennebunkport, Maine which was voted the second best Christmas celebration in the country.

They have been seen on Fox television, CBS television and are regulars at the Paul Revere House in Boston and Strawberry Banke Museum in Portsmouth,



NH. They also have presented their concert for nine years running as part of the Patriots Day weekend in Ogunquit, Maine. And that's not all; they participate in the July 4th celebration in York, Maine at the Nubble Light House and have even performed for presidential candidates.

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Photo-Scott Hansen, Carol Rochefort, and Paul Noel

HERO: FROM PAGE 1

citizens of the Merrimack Valley an opportunity to remember and reflect on the life of a great man.

Sharing in his own words about his brother, and his brother's faith, Bob talked about the events of April 16, 1972. More importantly, Bob talked about what kind of brother, husband and father Buddy was.

"I had joined the Knights of Columbus, when a Council was formed in Georgetown, and had discussed it with Buddy. After a while he thought that he would like to become a Knight, and I told him it was not that easy. I went on to explain the different requirements, and he decided he could handle it. I told him he would have to brush up on his religion because he may be quizzed on it. He went at it with gusto, so much so, that one day while at work on his job with the city, he parked his truck off on a side road out of sight, or he thought he

was out of sight, to do some studying. After a while, there was a knock on his window, and it was his boss. After being told how bad (studying on the job) was, and that he could be fired, his supervisor asked Buddy what was so important to be sitting reading in his truck instead of working. Buddy said that you (his boss) were not going to believe this, but I am studying my Catechism. Then, his boss asked, "why are you doing that?" He told him he was joining the Knights of Columbus. Thankfully, his boss was a Knight as well and understood. Bob also told of how his son Eric, Buddy's godson, was being babysat by Buddy and his wife Barbara the night before the accident. When I picked him up, on Sunday morning, Eric was crying because Uncle Buddy wouldn't take him fishing. Thankfully, Buddy thought his nephew was too young for the fishing trip! Eric was four years old.

Buddy's son Scott's reflections on his dad's life were equally moving, "Dad loved to take me fishing, we had great family cookouts, and I helped him make the Santa sleigh that was then used in the Haverhill Santa parade."

A US Navy Veteran, Frederick Hansen, spent much of his career at Naval Air Station (NAS) Glynco, in Brunswick, Georgia, located in Glynn County.

Named NAS Glynco as an abbreviation of Glynn County, Georgia, it was initially constructed as an operational base for lighter-than-air airships, more commonly known as blimps. Frederick's brother Bob recalled that his brother worked with the airships while assigned to the base during his military service after graduating from Haverhill Trade School in 1953.

Buddy was an employee of the Highway Department of the City of Haverhill, and his funeral procession stretched for blocks, with hundreds lining the streets as well. He was a Haverhill native, a son, a husband, a father of two, besides his sons, he has a daughter Pamela. Buddy was a member of the Haverhill American Veterans, also known as the AMVETS, he was a Knight of Columbus, with the order's Georgetown Council 6064, and was a parishioner of St. James Parish located in Haverhill.

While I never met Buddy, and only spent a short time with Bob and Scott over breakfast, Buddy Hansen is exactly the kind of American that we created Memorial Day for, a Veteran, a brother, a husband, a dad, and a hero. Bob and Scott told me that Buddy's life centered around his community and family, and it is why we remember him, and those like him, on Memorial Day!

Writing this article in May, gives me a chance to remind all Americans, what our nation's patriotic holidays are all

about, especially Memorial Day. Please remind the young Americans in your life that Armed Forces Day is Saturday, May 21st, for those currently serving on active duty, defending our nation around the globe. Memorial Day, Monday, May 30th, is set aside exclusively to honor those men and women who have died in military service to the nation, although many also remember our loved ones, who are no longer among us.

Veteran's Day is Friday, November 11th, honoring all our nation's veterans. Also, please remember our everyday heroes, this year, Father's Day is Sunday June 19th!

The Dracut American Legion asks all World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Veterans, to call (603) 518-5368 and sign up for an Honor Flight to the Memorials in Washington, D.C.! Veterans of all eras are asked to go the American Legion's website www.legion.org, and join the American Legion, working with Congress, preserving our Veteran's Benefits for future generations.


John Cuddy served in the US Navy's Construction Battalions (also known as the Seabees). After retiring from the US Navy, he earned a bachelor's in

history and a master's in economics from the University of Massachusetts on the Lowell Campus. He has been employed in Logistics at FedEx for the last 25 years. If you know a World War II, Korean War, or Vietnam War, Veteran who would like their story told, please email him at John.Cuddy@Yahoo.com ♦

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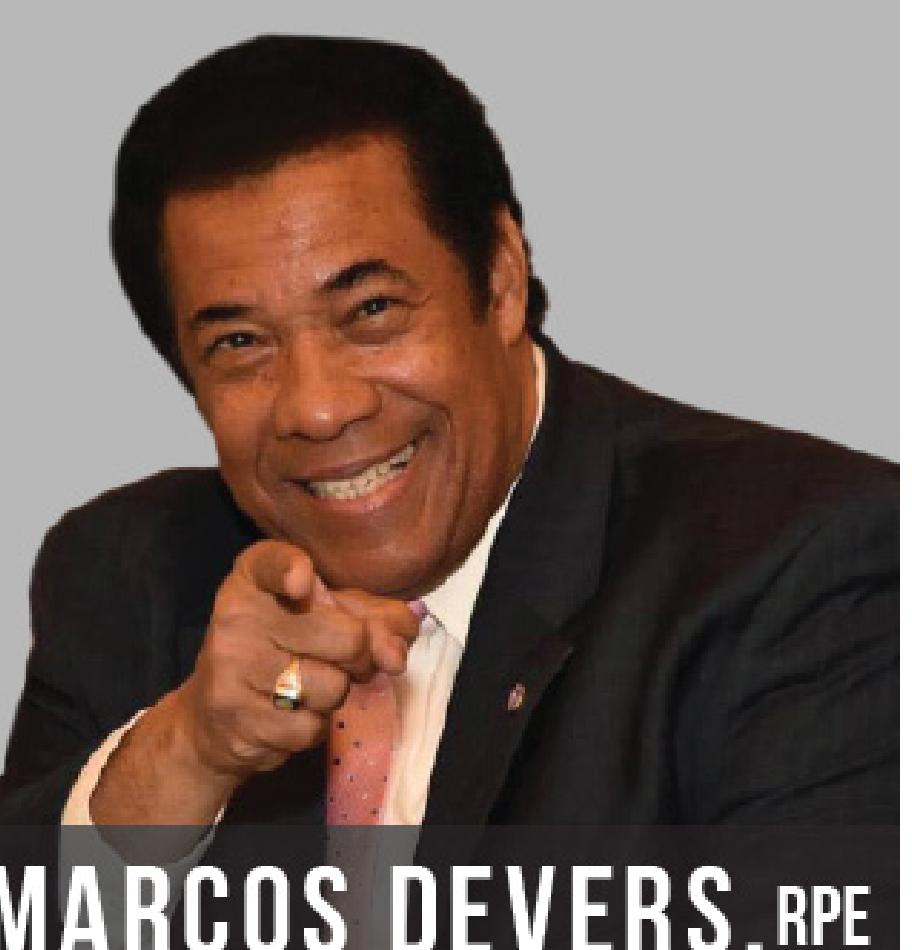
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ANDOVER

Diverse Real Estate LLC & Myrka LLC, TMI Hidden Road Andover LLC, \$2,714,286, 22 Hidden Rd
Panagiotis Fidias & Elizabeth Barkowski-Fidias, Louis R Fantozzi Revocable Tr & Jennifer L Fantozzi Revocable Tr & Louis & Jennifer Fantozzi Tr, \$2,400,000, 10 Prides Cir Myrka LLC & Diverse Real Estate LLC, TMI Brook St Andover LLC, \$2,148,214, 16-20, 16A Brook St

Lori & Martin Aronovitz, Nathon & Lynette Elam, \$1,632,911, 6 Buttonwood Dr

Gelnn & Diane Kiladis, Liana Conway-Price & Lance Price, \$1,517,000, 3 Stafford Ln

SAI Builders LLC, Eric & Andrea Mather, \$1,350,000, 121 Greenwood Rd
Samuel & Brianna Rowley, Michael Bailin & Kathryn Kalil, \$1,200,000, 17 Old School House Rd

Ken Stack & Karent Vigurs-Stack, Paul Mancillas & Carina Von Bredow, \$1,200,000, 8 Ivy Ln

Louis Maljers & Elena Malkova, Benjamin Smith, \$1,185,000, 430 River Rd

Andrea Rutherford, Xuejun Huang & Yin Feng, \$1,175,000, 23 Swan Ln Unit 6-1

William & Brenda Baldwin, Samuel Tinsley & Mirjana Marusic, \$1,135,000, 27 Bradley Rd

Brian & Karen McCarthy, Manishkumar Joshi & Meghavi Patel, \$1,075,000, 1 Mulberry Cir

Angel & Rachel Garcia, Ryan & Emily Breakey, \$1,050,000, 41 Cheever Cir

Elliot Realty Tr & Kenneth & Maureen Elliot Tr, Patrick Newell & Jennifer Prescott, \$1,000,000, 7 Arundel St

David & Paula Pinkney, Jason & Rebecca Berman, \$905,000, 8 Tanglewood Way North

Rijuta Saraykar & Shrikant Thakare, Aniruddha & Claudia Kokare, \$900,000, 151 Argilla Rd

Kai Zhang & Wanning Jiang, Daewoo Kim & Yoonjung Chung, \$840,000, 80 Haverhill St

D Germano Construction Services LLC, Bassel Boulos & Randa Farkouh, \$769,900, 17 Chester St

Richard Pangonis, James & Alexandra Warren, \$750,000, 30 Linda Rd

Mary & Marie Cronin, Joseph & Sandra Lacombe, \$743,000, 6 Jenkins Rd

Marjorie Hitchon, Melissa Denoncourt, \$670,000, 44 York St

Laurel Florio & Jill Lopresti & Louis Lopresti & Dean Lopresti, Dean Lopresti, \$660,000, 14 Wildwood Rd

North Shore Real Estate Solutions LLC, 3 Cyr Circle LLC, \$610,000, 3 Cyr Cir

Frances D Sullivan Revocable Tr & Marie & Raynor Gagnon Tr, 28 Sagamore Dr CBC LLC, \$582,000, 28 Sagamore Dr

Virginia McLeod, Lanalan Liu, \$530,000, 170 Haverhill St Unit 122

Guy & Daphne Gill, Stepherly Hyppolite, \$490,000, 49 1/2,R Elm St

Beverly Macleod, Timothy Cook & Bridget Macleod, \$400,000, 70 Bartlett St

Leonard James & Danielle Palgi, Udit Adhikari, \$380,000, 22 Railroad St Unit 205

Joseph Camilo, April Luis, \$275,000, 2-4 Ridge St Unit 1

Alex Kouvaris, Christopher Mader, \$260,000, 60-8 Colonial Dr Unit 60-8

Hossein Ghamary, Kimberly Hickey,

\$252,500, 70 Morton St Unit 3

Kepei Sun & Chonghui Huang, Chungsheng Song & Yuanlin Dong, \$230,000, 237 North Main St Unit 10
Andover Community Trust Inc & Essex County Habitat for Humanity, Yajhayra Santana, \$210,000, 8 Lupine Rd Unit 3
Juan Zamot, Marie Previlus, \$200,000, 14 Spruce St

LAWRENCE

Twin Coast Properties LLC, Colonial Property Advisors LLC, \$3,038,257, 55 Hampshire St

Jackson Realty Trust & George Saragas 2008 Trust & Elaine Saragas 2008 Tr & George & Elaine Saragas Tr, MBAG LLC, \$800,000, 348 Jackson St
Juana Naveo, Peter Siekiera, \$750,000, 23-27 Hancock St

Miguel Rivas & Jacinta Martinez, Kimberly Moreta, \$750,000, 108 Ames St
Jazquel & Jazguel Rivas, Malvi Quintana & Jemela Cuelo, \$750,000, 191-193 Howard St

Joel Vega & Marilyn Valez, Julio Amoaro & Daniana Martinez, \$705,000, 39 Montgomery St

David Giroux, Aglalhira Cortorreal & Masimiliano Lopez & Hanlert German, \$700,000, 36-38 Jennings St
638 Haverhill St Realty Tr II & Douglas Shaffer Tr & Doulas Shaffer Tr, Mark Fitzgerald, \$700,000, 638 Haverhill St

Jaime & Alba Balbi, Alexander Flores, \$697,000, 24 Foster St

Ames Real Estate LLC, AG Works LLC, \$695,000, 77-79 Cross St

Eric Artiles, Wilfido Gomez & Carmen Ayala, \$680,000, 9-11 Dana St
Manuel Aybar & Zuleika Reyes, Nadgee Vales, \$675,000, 303-305 Erving Ave

Massi Family Nominee Tr & Massi Family Irrevocable Tr & Gary Massi Tr, Michael Reyes & Juan Pujols, \$662,000, 24-26 Swan St

Diane Rocheteau, Jose Alcantara & Argentina De Alcantara, \$623,000, 135-137 Warwick St

Ram Gupta, Yaffa LLC, \$622,553, 11-21 Lawrence St Units 501,602,706,806,807

Jose Santiago, Jason Batista & Marianny Bonifacio, \$610,000, 10-12 Forest St

Jose & Celania Henriquez, Schmid Georges, \$600,000, 94-96 Sunset Ave

Joseph Bet-Eivazi, Cesar Cruz & Orquidea De Cruz, \$585,000, 97 Amherst St

Eric & Susan Carpenter, Suheidy Ventura, \$550,000, 79-81 Coolidge St

Menary Properties LLC, Maritza Taveras, \$524,700, 194 Garden St

Arturo & Diana Amaro, BGRS Relocation Inc, \$521,000, 104 Thornton St

BGRS Relocation Inc, Maksuda Rahman, \$521,000, 104 Thornton St

C I & M Red Door LLC, Javier Aquino, \$502,000, 28 Berkeley St

Rafael Rojas & Alexandra Montalvo & Rafael Rojas-Camilo, Ashley Lambert, \$495,500, 567 Mount Vernon St

Yukenski & Moris Sosa, Anthony Diaz-Parra & Junior Rodriguez, \$460,000, 128 Olive Ave

Felix, Felix Sr & Lois Cosme, Odalis Garcia, \$460,000, 26 Atkinson St

Filipe Santos, Luis Montesino & Marilenny De Rojas, \$455,000, 12 Halsey St

Redfinnow Borrower LLC, Ryan Doris & Theresa Knoblock, \$452,000, 46 South Bowdoin St

Louis & Linda Parah, Zoila Belliard & Cindia Espinal, \$450,000, 12 Emerald Ave

Lucy Francisco & Lucy Fanelli, Kristin & Stephen Demonico, \$450,000, 11 Vandergift St

Julio Amparo & Dahiana Martinez, Elmase Guerrier & Valery Polot, \$415,000, 46 Florence Ave

Ram Gupta & Ramm Gupta, Keara LLC, \$412,447, 11-21 Lawrence St Units 503,603,609

Raymond & Tammy Gondolfo, Andres Gil, \$385,000, 1 Forest St

One Hardt LLC, Maller Almanzar, \$375,000, 775 Essex St

Jose & Jeannette Santos, Santos Rodriguez, \$375,000, 5 Berkeley St

Deutsche Bank National Trust Co Tr, Makeover Pros LLC, \$374,000, 5 Beresford St

Patricia Mariano & Jo-Anne Corcoran, Bienvenida Savinon, \$370,000, 30 Orchard St

Edward Genao, Juan Vizcaino, \$370,000, 6 Brook St

Alexander & Alana Griffin, Elaine Gomez, \$367,000, 31 Beaconsfield St

Bienvenido & Jerry & Ivelisse Rodriguez, Yumagg Property Investments LLC, \$340,000, 48-50 Brookfield St

Philip G Belanger Tr & Philip Belanger Tr & Rachel Murrin Tr & Robert Stabile Tr, Valdez Enterprises LLC, \$330,000, 41 Pembroke Dr

Michelle Coletta, Cameron Viola, \$325,000, 17 Wedgewood Rd

Tiffany Schinas & John Steeves Est & John R Steeves Est & Gerald & Glenn III Steeves, Colasa Ramos & Rosalinda Rosario-Pichardo, \$321,000, 23 Durant St

Bernadette & James Gilbride & Bernadette Tammaro, Kassandra Rodriguez-Graham & Carmen Rodriguez, \$320,000, 7 Steiner St

Luis Castillo, Miozoti Decastillo & Francisco Castillo-Ramirez, \$310,000, 60 Springfield St

Juan Caraballo, Claudio Montilla, \$290,000, 9 East Haverhill St

Salvatore & Dorothy Dagata, Marlene Reyes, \$250,001, 95-97 William St Unit 2

Giovanni & John Sorbello, Gismary Pacheco, \$250,000, 469 Hampshire St Unit D

Paul & David Bryant & Shamming Li, Amy Andrews, \$240,000, 242 Mount Vernon St Unit 10

Daniel Toribio-Roman, Elizabeth Sanchez-Toro, \$195,000, 260 E Haverhill St Unit 17

Manuel Vasquez, Alexandra Vasquez, \$175,000, 334 Prospect St

Mgupta LLC, Keara LLC, \$150,000, 11-21 Lawrence St Unit 703

Luis Perez, Lucrecia Fana, \$100,000, 62-64 Kent St Unit A

METHUEN

Toll Ma Land III LP, Patricia Centrella, \$904,291, 133 Phoebe St Unit 70

Quebec Realty Tr & Pauline & Daniel Traficante Jr Tr, Nicholas & Deirdre Desrosiers, \$845,000, 4 Copley Dr

Five C Construction LLC, Douglas Wiswall & Susan Ohearn, \$820,000, 15 Brookfield

Marshall 2020 Trust & Michael & Nancy Marshall Tr, Michelle Viviers, \$775,000, 89 Pine Tree Dr Unit 65

Steven & David Foderaro, Jeremaih Kisakye & Jordana Muwanguzi, \$770,000, 57 Kimball Rd

Christopher & Christie Wright, Walid Halty, \$755,000, 54 Sorrento Ave

Toll Ma Land III LP, John & Denise McLinn, \$750,114, 42 Phoebe St Unit 100

Toll Ma Land III LP, Harry & Rhonda See, \$746,355, 38 Phoebe St Unit 102

Toll Ma Land III LP, Anthony & Marguerite Sciuto, \$739,517, 123 Phoebe St Unit 65

Toll Ma Land III LP, John O Stickley 2021 Tr & John & Geraldine Stickley Tr, \$695,174, 127 Phoebe St Unit 67

Ana Burgos & Carlos Bedoya, Louise & Robersonn & Junhior Memeus, \$670,000, 44 Lippold St

Natasha Branchina, Edson Dornezon & Sonia Dore, \$670,000, 12 Farley St

Zakaria Ghaouta & Claudia Ghaouta-Puerta, Tuiere & Michelle Barns, \$665,000, 133 Cross St

William Patenaude, Charles Kaweesi & Shakirah Namuganza, \$650,000, 10 Brentwood Rd

AJ Saab North Street Trust & Adam Saab Tr, Alessandro Lomagno & Rachel Tulley, \$625,000, 23 North St

Claridania & Carlos Alonzo, Rosilia Gomez-Barranco & Carlos Barranco, \$615,000, 23 Garrison Cir

Jason Greene, Joao & Glauce Teixeira, \$615,000, 26 Temple Dr

Mark & Karen Sullivan 2021 Irrevocable Tr & Emily Miller Tr & Mark & Karen Sullivan, Kyle Figueroa, \$610,000, 192 Brookdale Ave

Nguyen Family 2020 Revocable Tr & Angela Nguyen Tr, Viet Ton & Phuong Huynh, \$600,000, 3 Palermo St

Juan Alamo & Glendaliz Ramos, Jerson Baez, \$600,000, 14-16 Cypress Ave

Livadas Nominee Realty Tr & Nancy Livadas Tr, Richard & Deborah Legrow, \$590,000, 19 Russell Farm Dr Unit 44

Sidney & Ivana Semedo, Orlando Perez & Claudia Tejada, \$58

Ramon Cruz, Maria Thomas, \$475,000, 17 Odile St
On First Avenue LLC, Mikal Brice & Trecia Gibson, \$475,000, 1 First Ave
Property Possible Inc, Cadida Decena & Marlene Frias, \$456,000, 10 Caswell Ave
Donna & Richard Roy & Donna Phelan, Argelis Hilario & Aurania & Miguela Lantigua, \$450,000, 27 Oakcrest Cir
Steven & Rebecca Latina, Branscombe Dubina & Jordan Thompson, \$450,000, 19 Madison St
Redfinnow Borrower LLC, Keila Colon, \$447,500, 44 Pinehurst Ave
Mark & Ellen Paine, Melissa Parra, \$445,000, 20 Maplewood Ave
Erika Mandeville & Erika Smith, Mounir Elaissou, \$435,000, 4 Gage St
Rechab & Carrie Towne, Carl Toto, \$430,000, 7 Scherig St
Brenda L Maurais Irrevocable Tr & Laura Daly Tr, Tracey Meek, \$425,000, 44 Landing Dr Unit 44
Allen & Amanda Nowell, Amanda Bouchard & Christian Guerrero, \$407,000, 33 North St
Tony & Viet Ton, Ky & Dung Ton, \$400,000, 9 Hawthorne Ave
Huy Nguyen & Van Le, Daniel Peters, \$390,000, 1 Riverview Blv Unit 2-202
Idalio Guzman & Michael Reinoso,

Christopher Barczak, \$375,000, 28 Adelaide Ave Unit 28
Ashely Lambert, Marcie Nawi, \$372,000, 1 Riverview Blv Unit 3-207
Laura Levis, Francisca Deramos, \$370,000, 125 Harris St
Nathanael & Adrienne Chartier, Joshua & Maragaret Boakye, \$367,000, 20 Victory Dr Unit 2
Lindsay Prendergast & Eileen Donovan Est, William & Lindsay Prendergast, \$364,000, 5 Marjorie St
Margaret Rourke, Denise & Jesus Silva, \$360,000, 45 Washington St Unit V-107
Dunstin Pulin & Barbara Collins Est, Adam Rekkie & Emily Spinelli, \$350,000, 45 Washington St Unit V-106
Fatima Halouani, Carol Reitano, \$320,000, 34 Burnham Rd Unit 403, 969 Riverside Dr
Orchard Realty Tr & Jane Sigillo Tr, Sixto Lara, \$297,726, 93 Haverhill St
Mei Huang, Michael Odonnell, \$285,000, 6 Marvin St
Anna Valyrakis, Jennifer Machado, \$280,000, 945 Riverside Dr Unit 9C
Kannan Realty Tr & William Kannan Sr, Carrie Nash, \$250,000, 85 Ford St Unit A
Brandon & David White, Graciela Aguero, \$215,000, 15 Conrad St
Donald Preston, Preston Family 2022 Irrevocable Tr & Robert Preston Tr,

\$200,000, 375 Merrimack Unit 24
Richard Birch, Reina Cruz-Lemus, \$165,000, 65 Mystic St Unit 7
Adriano & Iris Sosa, Elizabeth & Queyron Nolberto, \$650,000, 669 Prospect St

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MFT Realty Trust LLC, NFE Johnson St LLC, \$1,100,000, 18-20 Johnson St
Gina Funari & Jeffrey Lloy, Paul & Katie Fadakar, \$990,000, 31 Candlestick Rd
Sundaram & Jalaja Narayanan, William Doane & Andrew Hirschfeld, \$895,000, 81 Saw Mill Rd
Parthipan Sundararajan & Shanmuga Sachidan, Antonio Reguero & Patricia Regel, \$880,000, 61 Mayflower Dr Unit 20
Stephen McCarthy, Timothy & Shaunna Foster, \$775,000, 347 Wood Ln
Janet Mitchell, Timothy & Kristen Stonecipher, \$710,000, 21 Norman Rd
Paul & Stacy Mancaniello, Anthony & Amanda Messina, \$686,000, 349 Waverly Rd
James Hudson, Edmund & Megan Metallides, \$660,000, 6 Thorndike Rd
Kristina & Oleg Mise, Jonathan Laguitao & Jona Lu, \$625,000, 94 Compass Point Unit B1
Jana Scalisi, Burns Family Realty Tr & James & Gretchen Burns Tr, \$575,000, 11 Alcott Way Unit 11
Charles Babbin & Kathleen Hughes-Babbin, Henry Colin & Nicole Heffernan, \$552,500, 455 Massachusetts Ave
Guy Richards Tr & Carol Richards Tr & Guy & Carol Richards Tr, Francis Stewart, \$550,000, 48-50 Water St
Melissa & Daniel Peikin, Joseph Gately & Kayla McGillivray, \$530,000, 30 Annis St
Ahmed Mahaba & Reem Ahmed, Suraj Gajendar & Ketaki Chawda, \$518,000, 20 Mill Pond
Elia A Mottola Irrevocable Tr & Mary S

Mottola Irrevocable Tr & Joseph & John Mottola Tr, Platinum Real Estate LLC, \$492,000, 53 Marian Dr
Jason Ouellette, Daniel Fisher & Rachel Colomba, \$470,000, 316 Middlesex St
James Oneil Est & Daniel Oneil, Amanda Desenna, \$450,000, 206 Pleasant St

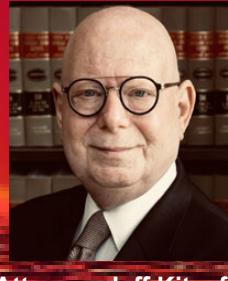
Edward Keisling, Kerri & Sean Fay, \$450,000, 34 Church St Unit 34
BAS Revocable Tr & Ann Burnham Tr & Miriam Smith Tr, Patricia Maher & Carol Psinois, \$426,000, 33 Buckingham Rd
Nina Lentz, Erin Bellavia, \$420,000, 210 Chickering Rd Unit 308A
Sean & Ellen Fennell, Andrew Wells & Kylie Kane, \$405,000, 4 Harvest Dr Unit 111

Grasso Family Tr & Robert Grasso Tr, Sean & Sarah Falta, \$400,000, 4 Harvest Dr Unit 110
Cynthia Barrett, Daphnee Jazon, \$400,000, 133 Pleasant St Unit 2
Jinming Chen & Zhiming Pi & Annie Zhiming, Noureddine Boutissant & Naima Elbaqali, \$375,000, 798 Chickering Rd Unit 2
Helen Colford Living Tr & Helen Colford Tr, Ann Mansfield, \$365,500, 168 Kingston St Unit 168
Landers Famliy Tr & Mary Howell & Maureen Landers Tr, Vincent Landers Jr, \$358,509, 1000 Osgood St Unit 1
Leah Zachon, Faraneh & Vincent & Lily Serino, \$340,000, 36 Village Greet Dr Unit 78
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Brian & Steven Vining & Donald Vining Est, Barbara Mackenzie, \$310,000, 47 Edgeland Ave Unit 9
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May Flowers?

Welcome to May, which will feature another full month of the spring season. During May, the days continue to grow longer and the nights shorter.

Our first 8PM sunset will occur on May 16th. With the sun angle continuing to get higher in the sky, the daily high temperatures will continue to increase as we go through the month. We can still get some chilly weather in May, especially at night. Frost can still occur in May, especially in areas of northern and western Massachusetts up into southern New Hampshire.

If you live in these areas, be careful of putting sensitive plants outside. To be safe, wait until we get closer to Memorial Day weekend. It is not impossible to get snow in May. An example was May 1977 when a snowstorm occurred with many areas getting over ten inches of snow. Due to the time of year, the snow contained a lot of water (was heavy). Due to this heavy, pasty snow, it put a lot of weight on trees and power lines causing many of them to snap and fall.

As a result, there were widespread power outages. A lot of cleanups had to take place. With the higher sun angle in May, this snow that fell was gone within a day or two. May can also bring hot summerlike weather. Depending on how the jet stream tracks will determine if we see any hot weather this May.

Recapping April: Boston averaged between 1.5 to 2 degrees above normal in terms of temperatures. There were three days in April when Boston reached 70 degrees. In terms of rainfall, Boston averaged over an inch below normal.

There were also some chilly days in May. Most notable was the last week in April when we had high temperatures only in the 50s. There was a day that week where Worcester did not even reach 50 degrees. During the last week of April, we saw a lot of cold nights where some inland areas saw temperatures drop below 32 degrees.

This cold weather was unusual for late April. What caused this cold? First the jet stream tracked south of our area and brought down some cold air from Canada. Remember the air is colder north of the jet stream track. A low PRESHA system that gave us some rain on Tuesday April 26th stalled when it got to Nova Scotia.

The low pressure just sat and spun around over Nova Scotia. Why did this low-pressure stall? The reason was

an area of high pressure in the upper atmosphere that was sitting over the North Atlantic. This upper-level high pressure system was blocking the low-pressure system from moving east and away from Nova Scotia.

A blocking pattern like the one that occurred can happen more in the spring versus winter. The reason is that the jet stream becomes weaker as we get into the spring months. This weaker jet stream causes the upper-level winds to slow down and, as a result, a blocking pattern can form which can cause a low-pressure system to stall. The blocking pattern can also prevent the jet stream from moving back north into Canada. This is when we saw cool days and cold nights during the last week of April. Also, in April the ocean is still very cold from the winter months.

As we ended this past April, ocean temperatures were only in the middle 40s. The ocean warms slower compared to land areas in the spring. Some reasons are the ocean is always moving (it is free to mix) and this mixing causes more energy for the sun to heat the ocean versus the land. Evaporation is always occurring over the ocean waters. Evaporation is a cooling process which takes heat out of the air (causing a cooling effect). A sea breeze this time of year in May can cause a sharp contrast in temperature between inland areas and coastal areas compared to a sea breeze in July and August.

Why is this? The reason is that the ocean temperatures are a lot warmer in July and especially August compared to May, so the sea breeze is less cold and more refreshing during the summer. Usually, sea breezes form when winds are light over inland areas. A strong Northwest offshore wind can disrupt and prevent a sea breeze from forming. So, if you plan to go and sit on the beach this month, make sure you bring a sweatshirt or wind breaker with you.

If you live well inland from the coast you may not think you need to take a sweatshirt or wind breaker. However, when you get to the beach and there is a sea breeze in May you will be happy you were prepared. Hurricane season begins June 1st, so, in next month's article we will talk about hurricanes and where they form and also talk about the hurricane intensity scale. Also, will we see any hot weather or unusual cold or snow this May? Stay tuned to next month's article for the answers.

Until then be safe and enjoy the spring season!! ♦

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GAY FROM PAGE 2

costing our country millions of dollars. The LGBTQ community tried to explain that, if you just accept us and let us live freely and openly, then a foreign entity could not bribe gay government employees for government secrets. Our forward-thinking government thought it better to redline and destroy these people's lives. The resulting hatred of this community has lasted to the present day. How can it not if states like Florida and Texas can pass such blatantly discriminatory laws? Senator Joseph McCarthy called homosexuals "morally weak" and "psychologically disturbed." And yet, it was the heterosexuals who were doing more harm to society than two men or two women loving each other. Straight people harassed, beat, lynched, burned, and killed many in the LGBTQ+ community (and still do) when all we want to do is to work, live, and love.

"The installment of this banner and donation...will give the students more awareness and support of the LGBTQ+ community...This alone is significant to me since it's positively affecting my peers and friends who are LGBTQ+...making the school more welcoming to people of different sexualities and gender," says Sam, yet another student at MHS.

I am proud to be a member of this community. I have long since shed my shame and fear that kept me in the closet

for three decades and that seems to scare a lot of other people. Our boldness, our willingness to shout out loud and proud makes others very nervous. And that's when policy begins to get ugly. "We don't like how you make us feel. Therefore, we will shut you up and out through policies of discrimination." And it is all under the guise of "public safety," "National Security" and the "preservation of American society." They're used to take certain people's rights away. It's a lie.

I am, however, optimistic with this new generation. Those that are LGBTQ+ are strong and proud and not prone to take discrimination laying down. Those who are not a part of our community but support it are just as bold and determined. They have a conscience and moral code high above future generations. They question the inequalities they see everywhere and demand change, not because it is good for them but, it's good for those they care about and the community they live in. With each new generation of voters, they progress towards a more equitable society for everyone. They won't vote for those of you who can't seem to grasp that we are all human and legal American citizens. They won't support those who misrepresent us or ignore that we even exist. They will demand a better society. Get ready! ☺

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Notice, the very important purpose Jesus gave these Gift Ministries to the body of Christ which today is, the Local New Testament Church. The "why" behind the "what," so that the church is equipped for the work of the ministry and that the church receive Edification!!! Far too often what has happened in the past and still today, is that we in the church placed these individuals who have these gifts on pedestals which there is only one who deserves that place in the Local New Testament Church which is our Lord Jesus Christ! Now having said this, I am also very much aware that the Bible also says in 1 Timothy 5:17, "Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine." NKJV. These wonderful ministers of God, those who rule well deserve our respect and honor, but not our worship!

This month I would like to share with you what the 5 Gifts Ministries are that Jesus gave to the Local New Testament Church which we find listed in the Book of Ephesians chapter 4. So that the Church, meaning people not a 4-walled building, would receive edification and exhortation and comfort.

Let's begin reading in Ephesians 4:1-10, "I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, 2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, 3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. 7 But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. 8 Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men." [9 (Now this, "He ascended" — what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)] Verses 9 and 10 are in a (parenthesis), meaning if you remove them, they do not take away from the main idea of what is being presented. So, in reading these verses you would go from end of verse 8 to verse 11. "And gave gifts to men," 11 And He [Jesus] Himself gave some to be apostles, [Govern] some prophets, [Guides, (vision)] some evangelists, [Gathers] and some pastors [Guards] and teachers, [Grounds in God's Word] 12 for the equipping of the [the individual in charge? NO!] the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ," NKJV.

I conclude with this, God is Sovereign, He knows what the Church needs and there are times when one person has to take on more than one role, but that should not become the norm, it is only in certain cases that God has deemed necessary! Nobody can put God in a BOX!!! This Point is clear, God wants His Church equipped and edified!!! Let's remember, Isaiah 55:8-9, "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD. 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts." NKJV.

God Bless you All,
Much love, Peter Larocque
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